

Please refer back to Mrs. Couch's updates below:

October 20, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

We arrive at the end of the first quarter next Friday. This is a great time to check in with your kids and review their grades to make sure all outstanding homework has been completed. We are also transitioning from the fall athletic season to the early winter one. Wrestling and boys' basketball begins this week. Multicultural Club begins next week, and 6th grade intramural basketball will begin in November along with Backing and Math Club. The first round of Band, Orchestra and Choir concerts start off next week with band leading the way. Please review the [announcements](#) for information about these activities, clubs and sports.

The 2023-24 **Crone Olympiad** games will open next week as the 3 grade levels will compete for possession of the **Golden Panther!** The first event will be a week-long spirit days competition. Encourage your child to dress for the theme of the day and earn points for their grade level.

- Matching Monday - Find a friend to match with!
- Superstar Tuesday - Wear a shirt that represents your favorite artists or singer.
- Wacky Wednesday - Wear something interesting or different.
- Thursday PJ Day - Wear your comfy clothes or PJs.
- Friday Class Colors Day - 6th: purple, 7th: white, 8th: black

The PTSA is sponsoring the **7th grade Social** next Friday, October 27, 6-8pm at Crone. It will be a spooky-theme with music, food, activities and fun! Students can wear their costumes. Costume face masks, fake blood, and any prop weapons are NOT allowed. Tickets will be sold for \$5 (exact change only, please) during the 7th grade lunch period on Tuesday, October 24th and Wednesday, October 25th.

See this [flyer](#) for costume guidelines and further details about the event! If you are able to donate a snack or beverage items for the event, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4DAEAC2CA AFC1-45024967-7thgrade#/> MANY volunteers are needed on the evening of the Social to help make this event a success! Sign up here to help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945A9A62AA5FB6-45025926-volunteers#/>

Fall conferences are coming up in November. Save the date for the evening of November 16 and all-day on Monday, November 20. More information about scheduling will be coming out soon.

The Panthers **fall athletes** capped off their seasons against great competition in the NPC and District #204 Conference Tournaments. Congratulations to the boys' soccer team for finishing in second place! They played great all week, falling just short in the Championship 0-1 to Gregory. They had a great season and were fun to watch!

Congratulations to the Crone **Cross Country** team for finishing the year strong at the NPC Conference meet on Wednesday afternoon. Twelve District 203 and 204 schools were present, and the competition was strong! ALL runners put in strong efforts, and made improvements throughout the season! Here are the Conference highlights:

- 8th grade boys team finished 4th overall- placing first among 204 Schools!
- 7th grade boys team finished 5th overall - placing 2nd among 204 schools!
- 8th girls team with only 3 dedicated girls managed to come in 11th place
- 7th grade girls team finished 8th overall - placing 4th among 204 schools

Individual highlights: Congratulations to the following individuals who placed for Crone in their respective races. To put these efforts into perspective, each grade/gender race had 130-160 runners!

Miles Barrett - 2nd place overall
Colin Rozycki - 5th place overall
Joey Clifton - 11th place overall
Rosemary Wong- 18th place overall
Kaitlyn Chisholm- 20th place overall
Joshua MConkey- 20th place overall
Andrew Melone- 24th place overall
Jaylin Park- 31st place overall
Ryan Fortt- 37th place overall
Julia Steimer- 54th place overall
Abby Fallon-55th place overall
Claire Liu- 70th place overall

Great Work Panthers! We are proud of your dedication and teamwork!

7th grade **flag football** ended their playoff season with a loss to Still 24-6. The Panthers played hard, put forth a fighting effort, but came up short. The highlight of the game was a pick six touchdown by Blake Torpey. The Panthers ended the season with a 2-10 record with a lot of hard fought and close games. These kids came a long way and were very proud of how they grew over the course of the season! The 8th grade football team finished in 4th place this season. The team improved weekly and the highlight of the season was defeating Granger, who were last season's champs.

The 7A **volleyball** team won the first set 25-18 in their first playoff game. The girls kept fighting for a win but lost 25-15 and 15-8 to Kennedy on Monday. The top servers were Katelyn Weiss, Neysa Thumma, Marialena George, and Eva Hospenthal. The 7AA team lost a really close one to Fischer, 20-25, and 27-29 to end their season. The Panthers kept fighting back using their best communication and agility of the season. They also grew and improved this year. Awesome work Panthers! The 8AA Girls Volleyball team was defeated in a marathon match against Lincoln. The Panthers won set two 32-30 before losing in the third 14-16.

Congratulations on a season full of hard work and development. Coach Jenkins would like to thank Maddie Florio, Gwen Yack, Marisa Armour, Anna Stenson, Martina Castrillon, Makena Backes, Yasmine Farag, Isabella Valdivia Kaylee Moscickis, and Sofia Summers. The 8A Girls volleyball team rolled over the Scullen Sharks in the

first round of the conference playoffs Monday night. The Panthers defense led the way with excellent passing while serving from Jei Deguia. and Mariam Sheriff sealed the win down the stretch. The 8A team's quest for the conference tournament championship ended with a tough loss to the #1 seed Lincoln Lancers Tuesday night. Coach Crackel and Jenkins are extremely proud of all the hard work and improvements that were made throughout the season. Thank you to Olivia Hines. Madison Bozue. Laasya Kunapaneni. Shauna DeGraff. Fiona Nicolson. Riley Gleason. Hannah Jacover. Mariam Sheriff. Eshaal Mustafa. Jeilyn Deguia. and Nina Sanchez. for an awesome season! Good luck to you all in the future!

Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com. The code for Crone is 8778.

Have a great weekend! Go Panthers!

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Crone Middle School

Upcoming Events:

- **Week of October 23, multiple days** - 6th grade Planetarium field trip, 8th grade Lincoln Marsh field trip
- **Wednesday, October 25** - Band Demo Concert - 6pm and 7:30pm
- **Friday, October 27** - End of the 1st Quarter, 7th grade Social: 6-8pm
- **Wednesday, November 1** - Boys' Basketball vs. Fischer (7A, 8H)
- **Thursday, November 2** - Wrestling vs. Washington, Orchestra Demo Concert - 6pm and 7:30pm

October 13, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

It appears the cool fall weather has set in. One positive is that now the leaves will finally start to change! For those who enjoy the crisp fall air, this is your time too! Enjoy s'more-making and picking apples and pumpkins. Also, right around the corner is the 7th grade social. The PTSA is sponsoring the 7th grade Social on Friday, October 27, 6-8pm at Crone. It will be a spooky-theme with music, food, activities and fun! Students can wear their costumes. Costume face masks, fake blood, and any prop weapons are NOT allowed.

Fall conferences are coming up in November. Save the date for the evening of November 16 and all-day on Monday, November 20. More information about scheduling will be coming out soon.

The fall regular-season competitions have completed and our Panthers are heading into the NPC and District #204 Conference Tournaments. Please see the daily schedule below. We will share updated schedules, times and locations in the [daily announcements](#). But, before we get to the playoffs, let's hear how our teams did this week.

The Crone **Cross Country** team finished their regular season with a terrific meet vs Granger & Washington at Crone. Despite the rainy weather the Crone teams ran well! The 8th grade boys team crushed the competition with a team victory over Granger & Washington. Crone had four runners in the top ten finishers: Miles Barrett came in first overall, followed by Joshua McConkey (2nd overall), Elliot Rubio (6th overall), and Abhi Seeth (8th overall). Crone's 8th grade girls had 3 finishers in the top 15! Julia Steimer came in 10th overall, Abbey Fallon 11th, and Claire Liu 14th. The 7th grade teams put in a great team effort despite losing to huge teams from Washington and Granger. The 7th grade girls team had 3 finishers in the top five! Rosie Wong came in 2nd overall, Kaitlyn Chisholm was 4th overall, and Jaylin Park with a 5th place overall. For the boys, the top 3 runners all came in with top 10 finishes! Colin Rozycki led Crone's runners, coming in second overall. Andrew Melone was 6th overall, and Ryan Fortt was 9th overall. Great job Panthers runners! Good luck at the Conference Meet on Wednesday!

The **volleyball** teams only had one game this week against Fischer. 7A put up a strong performance! Their top servers were Mikaela Arndt, Katelyn Weiss, and Lucy McGrath. Mariolena George served match point! 7AA lost in a close match against Fischer. Hailey Adams played an impressive attack, while Destiny Ngeah and Jessica Amato held down the back row on defense. The girls are excited to have one last chance at the Falcons next week in the playoffs! 8A and 8AA have had seasons of great growth, although their record does not reflect their personal and team successes. All the volleyball teams hope to advance in the playoffs and show their NPC opponents how much they have grown since their last match ups.

Soccer finished their regular season with the last 2 games vs. Hill and Granger. The games finished with a score line of 3:3 vs. Hill and a 5:2 win vs. Granger. Our record is 8 wins, 1 tie and 3 losses. We are poised to do our best in the playoffs, starting with a #3 seed. Best wishes Panthers!

The 7th grade **flag football** team had a very impressive win versus Hill. The final score was 22-10. Key plays of the game: Logan O'Brien threw for two touchdowns; one to Blake Torpey and one to Eason Chung. The defensive team played very well, only allowing one touchdown. Also, Blake Torpey had a pick six interception touchdown! The 8th grade flag football team has had an up and down season with a few big wins. Both the 7th and 8th grade teams look forward to coming together in the playoffs and seeing if they can advance to the finals! Good luck Crone!

The **7th Grade Social** will be held on **Friday, October 27th**! All 7th graders are invited to enjoy games, activities, a movie, crafts, dancing, snacks and fun with their classmates from 6-8 pm at Crone. Students are welcome to attend this Halloween-themed bash in costume (if they so choose)! See this [flyer](#) for costume guidelines and further details about the event!

If you are able to [donate snack or beverage](#) items for the event, please sign up here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4DAEAC2CAAFC1-45024967-7thgrade#/>

MANY volunteers are needed on the evening of the Social to help make this event a success! Sign up here to help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090945A9A62AA5FB6-45025926-volunteers#/>

Please note that **make-up school pictures** will be taken on Thursday, during the school day. Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com. The code for Crone is 8778.

Have a great weekend! Go Panthers!

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Crone Middle School

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, October 16 - Boy's Soccer Playoffs - Crone info TBD, Volleyball Playoffs - 8A @ Still - 4pm, 8AA @ Still - 5pm, 7AA @ Fischer - 4pm, 7A @ Washington - 5pm, Flag Football Playoffs - Crone info TBD
- Tuesday, October 17 - Soccer, Volleyball and Flag Football Playoffs continued
- Wednesday, October 18 - Cross Country Conference Meet @ Frontier Park - 4pm, Soccer Finals
- Thursday, October 19 - Picture Retakes (during school day), Volleyball Playoffs (Crone hosts 8AA), Flag Football Finals
- Friday, October 20 - Volleyball Finals
- Wednesday, October 25 - Band Demo Concert
- Friday, October 27 - End of the 1st Quarter, 7th grade Social: 6-8pm

September 29, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

We hope to see you out at Commissioner's Park this evening for the **Crone Color Run!** It is going to be a great evening filled with community, food and fun. The run starts at 5:30!

Our first full month of school is closing this week and it has been a great and busy September! Mrs. Larson puts together our **daily announcements**, full of student successes and opportunities and you can always review them from our Crone webpage. This episode included information about clubs that are kicking off in October including the Crone Robotics Competitive Club, the Teachers of Tomorrow and Yearbook. Homework Club and Crone Kindness and Crafts Club have already started, but there is information about those clubs in this week's announcements also.

It was another busy week of athletic competitions and our fall seasons are working their way to October conclusions in our conference tournaments.

The **soccer** team kicked off their week last Friday and played 4 games, finishing 3-1! The Panthers defeated Still, Hill and Fischer before dropping a tough one to Gregory 3:6. Both Crone and Gregory are sitting with 2 losses and have #1 seed hopes. Crone played their best soccer of the week versus Hill and showed great ball distribution and glimpses of good, possession-based soccer. With only 3 games left and probably the most important game of the season on Monday vs. Scullen, the Panthers will use the weekend to recover and rest. Monday's game will most likely decide who gets the #1 seed and a BYE on day one of playoffs. We would love to see a cheering squad on the sidelines and weather looks to be a perfect day to come out and support your Panther soccer team!

The Crone **Cross Country** teams performed well at the challenging Arrowhead Park meet vs. Washington and Fischer. With each week the entire team is improving, with faster times & great teamwork. The 8th grade boys team dominated the meet with 5 out of top six overall finishers! Miles Barrett, Josh McConkey and Joey Clifton put in a tremendous effort and came in first, second and third respectively in the overall race! Dino Wang and Abhi Seeth finished 5th and 6th overall. Abby Fallon & Claire Liu ran great races for the 8th grade girls team. The 7th grade cross country teams also had strong meets, both placed second. For the boys, Colin Rozycki led Crones runners, coming in second overall by only 3 seconds. Other fantastic finishers for Crone included Steven Mei and Ryan Fortt who were in the top ten overall. Outstanding races were run by Rosie Wong (top 10 finish) , Kaitlyn Chisholm, and Jaylin Park. Great job Panthers; only a couple weeks until the conference!

Our **volleyball** teams had a very rough week, but they continue to enjoy playing together and fighting for wins as a team! The 8AA team was defeated by Kennedy and Granger, but grabbed the win from Madison in two sets! Some highlights from the week were Anna Stenson's netplay, Sofia Summer's outstanding defense and serve receive and Maddie Florio's 9 aces versus Granger. 8A lost all three matchups this week. Mariam Sheriff's defense stood out against Kennedy and Eshaal Mustafa had her best game of the season on defense while Hannah Jacover kept the game close with great serving versus Madison. The game last night was a thriller against the Granger Grizzlies. The Panthers put together their best game of the season with great energy all around, and fantastic net play from Riley Gleason. 7A and 7AA also lost all three matches this week. 7A highlights included serves from Lucy McGrath, Katelyn Weiss, and Neysa Thumma against Kennedy and Madison. Eva Hospenthal and Katelyn Weiss had some great saves during the games versus Madison. Keep working hard Panthers!

The 7th and 8th grade **flag football** teams also lost both games this week. 8th grade lost two hardfought games by less than a touchdown! Coach Williams and Davenport will continue to mix up the combinations on the field for more successful outcomes this coming week. In a battle against Gregory, the final score was 6-0 in a very hard-fought defensive battle. The team played very well, the offense just couldn't get it going. Also, a hard-fought game against a very tough Fischer opponent ended with the final score of 28-10. Highlights of the game included the defense scoring two safeties and Michael Booth with a run and catch touchdown!

All the fall teams matchup against conference opponents again this week. Please see the schedule in this week's upcoming events below.

Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com. The code for Crone is 8778.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the warm weather!

Go Panthers!

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Crone Middle School

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, October 2 - Soccer vs. Scullen, Volleyball vs. Lincoln (7H, 8A)
- Tuesday, October 3 - Flag Football @ Scullen
- Wednesday, October 4 - Cross Country @ Hill, Volleyball vs. Jefferson (7H, 8A)
- Thursday, October 5 - Volleyball vs. Scullen (7A, 8H), Flag Football vs. Granger
- Monday, October 9 - No School
- Thursday, October 12 - 8th grade PSAT 8/9 (during the school day)

September 15, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

Thank you to all of our parents and family members who attended the 7th and 8th grade **Curriculum Presentations** last night. We appreciate all the connections and reconnections we made last night! We look forward to the 6th grade and Encore Curriculum Nights coming up on Tuesday. 6th grade will run from 6-7pm and 6th grade parents will meet in the Crone cafeteria for a combined presentation from teams 6-0 and 6-1. The presentation will include information about your child's teachers, team expectations, core class content and an opportunity for Q and A. Administration and Student Services will help wrap up the evening. Please remember that the presentations will offer general information that is useful to all families. If you have questions about your specific child, kindly reach out to teachers in an email or phone call. Also from 6-7pm, our special education AIM teachers are going to be presenting in the LMC. Encore hosts parents 7-8pm in a drop in format where you can visit their classrooms and learn more about the Encore curriculums.

Crone Athletics built momentum this week with multiple competitions! Crone **cross country** had another strong showing last night competing against Gregory and 203 powerhouse Kennedy. Many of the Crone runners have already improved their times since last week. The 8th grade **flag football** team defeated Fischer on Tuesday by the score of 18-6. Last night they lost a hard fought battle with Gregory by the score of 12-8. The 7th grade flag football team lost to Fischer on Tuesday, but gained confidence after a late score and took that into last night's game versus Gregory. After leading 14-6, the Panthers fell in a heartbreaker to the Pioneers.

The 8AA **volleyball** team lost tough matches to Gregory and Washington on Thursday night. Maddie Florio had 8 aces in the effort versus Gregory and Gwen Yack played a solid all around match setting and serving against Washington. 8A also fell to Gregory and Washington. They pushed Gregory to 3 games and Sofia Summers led the Panthers on defense with great passing and movement. Eshaal Mustafa led the Panthers with 5 aces against Washington. The 7A and 7AA volleyball teams also lost against Gregory and Washington this week. The girls were battling hard throughout both evenings. The Panthers are perfecting their skills and working hard during practice. Coach Cotto is very proud of the girls! Jessica Amato brought 7AA back with her serve during the second set and the team played an aggressive offense and strong defense against Washington. The Panthers will look to get back in the win column Monday at Hill. The Crone **soccer** team is 3-0 after defeating Still and Hill this week. Against Still, the Panthers led early, but gave up 2 goals in the second half. They showed great communication and character to close out the game with a 3:2 win. versus a very physical Fischer team, Crone was down 2:1 at half time. Great student leadership along with a hat trick by Nicolas Mason, secured a 3:2 win. Crone faces 3 very tough teams next week and any fan support from peers would be greatly appreciated! Please see the complete athletic schedule for next week below.

We were disappointed to cancel the Fall Sports **Jamboree** due to weather! Although we are not able to reschedule the event, PTSA will run a snack bar on Monday evening during the volleyball and flag football games. Come out and support our Panther Athletics!

Thank you for your participation in the **POP fundraiser**! Donations are already starting to come in and hundreds of Crone students have received fun prizes! There are still a bunch of additional prizes to be earned by students. All donations are due September 26.

Thanks to all parents **dropping off and picking up** their students! The mornings and afternoons have been very smooth! Just 2 reminders:

1. At 7:57 am, all students should only enter through the main entrance (the other 2 doors will be closed at that time).
2. The parking lot is CLOSED during afternoon pick-up. Please do not park there and have your student cross the street due to safety concerns.

The Crone **Color Run** is coming up on Friday, September 29: 5:30-7:00pm at Commissioner's Park. Registration is still open if your child or family would like to participate. This is a super fun event that is especially great for 6th graders and families to meet new friends and connect with other kids they have met during the first month of school. Register using this [link](#).

Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com The code for Crone is 8778.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Go Panthers!

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Crone Middle School

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, September 18 - Boys Soccer @ Gregory, Volleyball vs. Hill (7H 8A), Cross Country @ Scullen, Flag Football vs. Scullen
- Tuesday, September 19 - Flag Football vs. Still, Crone Open House (curriculum night) **6th Grade 6:00pm-7:00pm, Encore 7:00pm-8:00pm**
- Wednesday, September 20 - Boy's Soccer @ Scullen, Volleyball vs. Still (7A, 8H), Cross Country @ Still
- Thursday, September 21 - Flag Football @ Hill
- Friday, September 22 - Boy's Soccer vs. Still

September 1, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

Once in a blue moon.....I hope you ventured outside last night to see the beautiful and bright moon. It was a very rare one because it was also a super moon, meaning it occurred during a period when the moon is closer to the Earth, making it appear larger and brighter than usual. Although called a blue moon, it is not more blue than usual. Dating back to the 1940s, the second full moon occurring in the same month is called a blue moon. According to NASA, 25% of full moons are super moons while only 3% of full moons are blue moons, a truly rare event!

We still have some small challenges to work out with our bus transportation. Until further notice, please expect buses 18 and 13 and 12 and 15 to be combined. This could delay buses or cause them to be crowded. If you choose to drop your child off or pick them up, we will do our best to accommodate any increases in traffic and will keep your child on the same bus route for the future. Typically buses start arriving at Crone in the morning at 7:40am. If you choose to drive your child to school, please review the [Drop-Off/Pick-Up](#) Procedures. The school day starts with an 8:00am bell, so students should plan their arrival so they can stop at their locker and be in their first period class by the bell.

Our flag football teams kicked off their seasons yesterday against a competitive Granger team. Both the 7th and 8th grade teams played well and gave great efforts, but fell short of the win. Flag football and our other fall sports begin their conference season this week. Please see the upcoming events schedule at the bottom of this message.

This week is the **Fall iReady Benchmark Assessment** at Crone. Students will be taking the Reading section on Thursday, September 7th and the Math section on Friday, September 8th. We would greatly appreciate your help in making sure your child is in attendance and ready with a pair of headphones. Makeups will be held periodically, during the following week.

The Fall Sports Jamboree will be held at Crone on Monday, September 11, starting at 4pm. All fall sports teams except soccer will have pre-season practices with Scullen. Soccer will have an intersquad scrimmage. We will also have snacks, drinks and cold treats for sale. We hope to see a great crowd supporting our Panther Athletics!

The Crone Color Run is coming up on Friday, September 29: 5:30-7:00pm at Commissioner's Park. Today is the last day to register and receive a tshirt. This is a super fun event that is especially great for 6th graders and families to meet new friends and connect with other kids they have met during the first month of school. Register using this [link](#).

Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com. The code for Crone is 8778.

Enjoy your long weekend and great weather! We will see our Panthers back at Crone on Wednesday. Remember that Wednesday will be a typical late arrival schedule.

Go Panthers!

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Crone Middle School

Upcoming Events:

Monday, September 4 - No School

Tuesday, September 5 - School Improvement Day - No student attendance

Wednesday, September 6 - Boys Soccer vs. Granger - Home

Thursday, September 7 - 1st PTSA Meeting - 9:15am

Volleyball vs. Fischer (7 - away, 8 - home)

Cross Country @ Hill

Friday, September 8 - Boy's Soccer vs. Still - Away

Monday, September 11 - 4:00pm - Sports Jamboree

Tuesday, September 12 - POP Fundraiser Kick-Off

Save the Dates:

Thursday, September 14 - Crone Open House (curriculum night)

7th Grade 6:00 pm-7:00 pm, 8th Grade 7:15 pm-8:15 pm

Tuesday, September 19 - Crone Open House (curriculum night)

6th Grade 6:00pm-7:00pm, Encore 7:00pm-8:00pm

August 25, 2023

Good afternoon Crone Families,

It has been a great start to the 2023-2024 school year! Students have been building relationships with their classmates and teachers and are learning the Crone routines during these first 2 days. Check out the [Crone Announcements](#) to review the Crone Universal Expectations and hear more about [Fall sports](#) and the Cricket and Art Club.

Student lunch periods have been going smoothly as well. Please review these [lunchroom expectations](#) to keep the lunchroom orderly and enjoyable. Organic Life continues to be our food service provider. Students may purchase breakfast and lunch from a variety of [menu choices](#). Salads, fruit, snacks and beverage items round out the nutritious and popular lunch menu. Breakfast costs \$1.60 and Middle School lunch costs \$3.25

We still have some small challenges to work out with our bus transportation. Today, all 19 buses arrived close to on-time in the morning and afternoon. This system will continue to become more and more consistent. Typically buses start arriving at Crone in the morning at 7:40am and leave around 3:07pm. If you choose to drive your child to school, please review the [Drop-Off/Pick-Up Procedures](#). The school day starts with an 8:00am bell, so students should plan their arrival so they can stop at their locker and be in their first period class by the bell.

This coming week is Safety Week! During the week, we will review many topics with students including our ALICE response procedures, severe weather and fire drills, and mental health supports and resources that are available at Crone. Additionally, parents will receive a stand-alone letter explaining more about the ALICE best practices and procedures.

Yearbooks are already for sale! They can be purchased at www.yearbookordercenter.com the code for Crone is 8778.

Please see the upcoming dates below. We would love to see many students and families at our upcoming athletic competitions and school events.

Go Panthers!

Upcoming Events:

Monday, August 28 - 3:00pm - Fall sports tryouts continue

Thursday, August 31 - Flag football vs. Granger - Away

Monday, September 4 - No School

Tuesday, September 5 - School Improvement Day - No student attendance

Save the Dates:

Tuesday, September 11 - 4:00pm - Sports Jamboree

Thursday, September 14 - Crone Open House (curriculum night)

7th Grade 6:00 pm-7:00 pm, 8th Grade 7:15 pm-8:15 pm

Tuesday, September 19 - Crone Open House (curriculum night)

6th Grade 6:00pm-7:00pm, Encore 7:15pm-8:15pm

Aug 23, 2023

First Day Reminders:

Good afternoon Crone Families,

It is here; the eve before the First Day of the 2023-24 School Year! We are filled with anticipation as we prepare to greet all of our students tomorrow morning!

Students are highly encouraged to ride the bus on the first day of school. Buses will unload at the back of the building and students will enter through door 7 or 11. Car riders will be dropped in the front and will enter through door 21 and door 3.

- Grade 6 students will report to the gym with their backpacks and will receive a new copy of their schedule. They will be greeted by their teachers and the Crone Administration and dismissed with their first period classmates and teacher.
- Grade 7 and 8 students will not receive another paper copy of their schedules. We encourage them to review their schedule on StudentVue. They will enter the building, stop at their lockers and then head to their first period class.

Organic Life continues to be our food service provider. Students may purchase breakfast and lunch from a variety of [menu choices](#). Salads, fruit, snacks and beverage items round out the nutritious and popular lunch menu. Breakfast costs \$1.60 and Middle School lunch costs \$3.25.

Transportation Information is updated. You can find your child's bus information in Parent and Student Vue under Student Info. Please scroll to the bottom to locate the student bus number and pick-up time. Students will not need their IDs to ride the buses on the first day. Buses start arriving at Crone in the morning at 7:40am. If you choose to drive your child to school, please review the [Drop-Off/Pick-Up Procedures](#). The school day starts with an 8:00am bell, so students should plan their arrival so they can stop at their locker and be in their first period class by the bell.

Any students who have **PE in the first quarter**, please bring your PE shirt and lock tomorrow. Shirts and PE locks will be available for purchase during PE for \$8 each. Cash or check is accepted.

7th and 8th grade students may participate in interscholastic athletics and there are several fall sports to choose from. All students wishing to participate should have a current health physical on file. Please review this [Fall Sports Information](#). You will learn more information through each sport's in-person meetings and Google classroom, if available.

Have a wonderful evening and we look forward to seeing all the students in the morning!

July 18, 2023

Dear Crone Community,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer! The Crone Team is excitedly preparing for the start of the 2023-24 school year and is looking forward to welcoming students back into the building in August! The roof project is moving along well and the new parking lot should be finished in early August.

In addition to the new staff members I shared previously, we are also excited to welcome the following staff to the Crone Family.

Mrs. Molly Larson - Assistant Principal

Miss Jessica Bartosz - 8th grade ELA, SS and PA SS

Mrs. Liz Meyers - 7th grade ELA, SS and PA SS

The linked [2023-2024 School Information](#) will assist you as you plan for your child to return to school in August and will help you navigate Crone Middle School throughout the school year. Please carefully review each section.

We are always very lucky to partner with our parent leaders on PTSA! PTSA is an excellent way to stay connected with your child's education. Historically, Crone has benefited from a high level of parent support through participation in PTSA endeavors. We encourage you to become involved with this important organization. If you are not currently a member, you can find membership information in above link.

Crone is hosting orientation for all **new-to-district families** on Wednesday, August 16 from 9:00AM to 10:00AM for students and parents **new** to District 204. We are also hosting a Pre-Open House for students with special programming from 10:30AM to noon on Wednesday, August 16. The Pre-Open House is invite only. In an effort to better welcome and transition our 6th grade Panthers, we are hosting a **6th grade Panther Orientation** on August 17 from 8:00AM-12:45PM. Students will be divided into 2 sessions alphabetically. Please see the 2023-24 link above for specific information.

7th and 8th grade students are invited in to pick up a paper copy of their schedules on Friday, August 18. Sessions are also split alphabetically: 8:00am-10:00am (A-K) and 10:45am-12:45pm (L-Z). Students are invited to set up their lockers and walk their schedules during this time. Additionally, pre-ordered supply kits will be ready for students during their specific time slot. More information can be found in the 2023-24 link above.

We welcome students back for the first day of attendance on Thursday, August 24 . Students are highly encouraged to ride the bus on the first day of school. Buses will unload at the back of the building. As students arrive, staff members will be available to direct students. Grade 6 students will report to the gym where they will be introduced to their period 1 teachers.

Please note: Students in band and orchestra will not need to bring instruments on the first day of school. Music department staff members will give further directions at a later date.

The main office at Crone is currently open Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to 3:30PM. Please feel free to stop in if you would like to drop off school physicals or register a child for school. Beginning Monday, August 14, we will return to regular hours, Monday-Friday from 7:15AM to 3:45PM.

I hope this information has been helpful as we prepare for the start of the school year. Feel free to contact a member of the office staff or administration if you need any additional information. We look forward to seeing our students' smiling faces very soon!

Sincerely,

Melissa J. Couch
Principal, Clifford Crone Middle School
melissa_couch@ipsd.org

7/17/23

Dear Crone Community,

I'm happy to share that the Indian Prairie School District Board of Education approved Molly Larson as a new assistant principal at Crone Middle School for the 2023-24 school year at its July 17, 2023 meeting.

Mrs. Larson began her career in Indian Prairie ten years ago as an eighth grade teacher at Scullen Middle School. She taught in the areas of science, English Language Arts, and social studies. She most recently served as an instructional specialist for the district since 2018.

Mrs. Larson earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Aurora University and master's degrees in educational technology from Concordia University Chicago and educational leadership with principal endorsement from Aurora University.

Mrs. Larson is excited to return to the middle school level and work with the Crone staff to positively impact learning. She is looking forward to connecting with you and getting to know our Panther families. Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Larson to the Crone Community!

Sincerely,
Melissa Couch
Principal

July 3, 2023

Dear Crone Community,

I hope you are having a wonderful summer! I can't believe we are already into July. The seasonal break allows us to make upgrades to the building and hire new staff members. If you have taken a drive by Crone recently, you can see some of the upgrades that are in process. Progress is being made on the roof and preparations have been made for the new parking lot.

We are excited to welcome new Crone staff members to the Panther Family. Please help us make them feel at home in our community.

Mr. Brad Lange- 8th grade science and PA science

Miss Sarah Kelley- 8th grade special education, supported ed

Miss Shannon Cavins - special education, self-contained

We want to welcome back Mrs. Amy Williams - 6th grade ELA and PA SS and Ms. Chasta Moore - school social worker!

We also are saying goodbye to one of our Assistant Principals, Ms. Kibbee Lewis. She will be serving a new community within District #204 at Granger Middle School. Please see this special [farewell message](#) from her. We are going to miss her greatly and we wish her the very best at Granger! We are still in the process of hiring a few more positions, including an assistant principal. We will be sharing additional news with you very soon.

We are very close to finalizing student schedules for this coming year. If you have a returning #204 student, please complete the online registration process if you have not already. This helps us to confirm our enrollment numbers for 2023-24. Parents and guardians will use their ParentVue account or the online registration portal to complete registration.

Detailed information about the 2023-24 school year will be sent out next week. Please save the dates for the New to District Orientation, Pre-Open House for students with IEPs/504s, 6th grade Den Day, and 7th and 8th grade schedule pick-ups and locker set-up in the meantime.

August 16 - 9am - 10am: New to District Orientation

10:30-noon: Pre-Open House

August 17 - 6th grade Panther Den Day: Student will attend mini-sessions

8:00am-10:00am **(A - K)**, 10:45am-12:45pm **(L - Z)**

August 18 - 7th and 8th schedule pick-up and locker set-up-Drop-in format

8:00am-10:00am **(A - K)**, 10:45am-12:45pm **(L - Z)**

The main office at Crone is currently open Monday-Thursday from 7:30AM to 3:30PM with the exception of the July 4th holiday tomorrow. Please feel free to stop in if you would like to drop off school physicals or register a child for school. Although the front parking lot is not open, the drop-off/pick-up lane may be used. Ring the doorbell and someone will assist you. Feel free to contact an administrator or Dawn Gorgan or Jennifer Anderson, our administrative assistants, if you have a question.

Sincerely,

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Clifford Crone Middle School

melissa_couch@ipsd.org

June 2, 2023

Dear Crone Community ~

School's out for the kids for the summer! Thank you to the whole Crone Community for your support and partnership during this school year. We have built good relationships and have learned so much from our students. We will use this knowledge as we prepare for the 2023-24 school year.

If your child has not returned LMC books, textbooks, or 8th grade chromebooks, please bring them to Crone next week between 8:30am-2:30pm. You can buzz at the main entrance and wait for a staff member to collect the materials from you or place materials in the blue bin by the main entrance.

The main office will be open for summer hours beginning Tuesday. Summer hours are Monday-Thursday: 7am-3:30pm. You are welcome to drop by Crone using the main entrance, but please email us if you are hoping to meet with an administrator or our enrollment secretary. This will ensure that they are in the building to meet with you.

I will be sending out a communication about the 2023-2024 school year in mid-June and mid-July, so please be on the lookout for those. Student Schedules for next year will not be posted until early August.

Thank you again for a great school year! We wish you a happy summer vacation! If your child is a 6th or 7th grader, we will see you back at Crone in the fall.

Sincerely,

Melissa

Melissa J. Couch

Principal, Clifford Crone Middle School